

Message Text

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S/S-O:JLHOGANSON

C/HSONNENFELDT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 058912

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL AT MFA

REF: MOSCOW 3477

1. IF ZEMSKOV RAISES QUESTION OF PRESS STORIES ON SOVIET INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES, YOU MAY WISH TO NOTE THAT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH STORIES SINCE FEB. 20 "STAR NEWS" ARTICLE. AS HARTMAN NOTED TO VORONTSOV ON FEB 26, PERIODIC SOVIET PRESS ARTICLES ON THEME OF VIGILANCE, OFTEN QUOTING SOVIET SECURITY OFFICIALS, ARE SIMILARLY UNHELPFUL IN FURTHERING OUR MUTUAL OBJECTIVES.

2. ON VISA PROBLEMS WE EXPECT FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF SOME PENDING CASES. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT WE DO NOT EXPECT TO BE IN A POSITION TO ISSUE A VISA TO PERMIT INTOURIST DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE UKHLIN TO RETURN TO HIS POST. IF ZEMSKOV RAISES THIS CASE, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT WE HAVE SUSPENDED CONSIDERATION OF UKHLIN VISA AFTER WE WERE NOTIFIED BY SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON THAT

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- FRANKEL WOULD NOT RECEIVE VISA FOR HIS LECTURE

TOUR UNTIL UKHLIN GOT HIS VISA TO RETURN. ANOTHER US LECTURER, WALDAVSKY, WAS DENIED A VISA IN RETALIATION FOR OUR FAILURE TO ISSUE A VISA TO A SOVIET COMMERCIAL VISITOR,

TERENT'YEV. WE REGARD AS AN UNFORTUNATE TACTIC RETALIATION AGAINST PARTICIPANTS IN EXCHANGE PROGRAMS WHEN WE ARE UNABLE FOR SPECIFIC CAUSES TO ISSUE VISAS TO OTHER SOVIET VISITORS. FYI AND FOR YOUR USE WITH ZEMSKOV AT YOUR DISCRETION BOTH UKHLIN AND TERENT'YEV VISAS REPRESENTED REAL PROBLEMS FOR US END FYI.

3. YOU MAY WISH TO TELL ZEMSKOV IN THIS CONNECTION AS HARTMAN TOLD VORONTSOV THAT BOTH SIDES MUST KEEP A CAREFUL WATCH ON ACTUAL PRACTICES IN SENDING PEOPLE TO ONE ANOTHER'S COUNTRY. IT DOES NOT HELP WHEN UNFORTUNATE CASES COME TO LIGHT PUBLICLY. WHEN WE HAVE UNFORTUNATE CASES WHICH MUST BE DISCUSSED, THIS SHOULD BE DONE DIRECTLY BETWEEN US, NOT IN THE PRESS.

4. ANOTHER MATTER WHICH MAY COME UP CONCERNS THE ARREST OF AN AMTORG EMPLOYEE IN NEW YORK FOR DRUNKEN DRIVING, GRAND LARCENY AND LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT. THE EMPLOYEE--MAKSIMOV--ALLEGEDLY STOLE THE TAXI WHEN THE DRIVER LEFT IT, COLLIDED WITH ANOTHER VEHICLE AND WAS APPREHENDED SUBSEQUENTLY AND HELD IN JAIL OVERNIGHT. MALIK AND VORONTSOV HAVE BOTH REGISTERED THEIR CONCERN OVER THE INCIDENT. CONSULAR ACCESS WAS PROMPTLY ARRANGED AND WE HAVE ASKED USUN TO FOLLOW CASE CLOSELY. HE IS BEING ARRAIGNED MARCH 15 AND DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE REPORTED BY SEPTEL. INGERSOLL

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